

In the Claims

This listing of all claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) An apparatus for making a cut in an elongated strip of material comprising:

at least one modular, self-contained cassette cutter including:

an upper cutter portion having a blade retaining plate and at least one blade, said

upper cutter portion in slideably movable contact with a lower cutter portion;

retaining springs acting on and separating said cutter portions;

a stripper located over a cutter base plate and material cradle, which aids in keeping

said material in place when said at least one blade is extracted; and

setscrews in contact with said at least one blade for pressably securing said at least

one blade to said blade retaining plate, such that said at least one blade may be

replaced individually as needed to maintain a sharp cutting edge;

wherein said apparatus further comprises screw holes through said lower cutter portion for mounting said apparatus to a press.

2. (original) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising an L-shaped slot within said blade retaining plate for securing said at least one blade for end cutting.

3. (original) The apparatus of claim 2 further comprising a short blade and a long blade for said end cutting.

4. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 2 including screw holes in said blade retaining plate for a tapered tipped setscrew in contact with a flexing wedge which is in contact with said at least one blade to press fit said at least one blade against said blade retaining plate.

5. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 4 further comprising at least two flat tipped setscrews in contact with said at least one blade for press fitting a long portion of said at least one blade, ~~and tapered tipped setscrews for press fitting a short portion of said at least one blade.~~

6. (original) The apparatus of claim 5 wherein said long portion of said at least one blade is a long blade, and said short portion of said at least one blade is a short blade.

7. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 1 including a plurality of triangular shaped slots within said blade retaining plate for securing said at least one blade for corner cutting.

8. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 7 further including a plurality of straight blades arranged in a saw-tooth fashion to cut said plurality of triangular shaped slots in said elongated strips of material for corner cutting.

9. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 8 further comprising a triangular shaped wedge for pressing two of said straight blades against said blade retainer plate, such that said straight blades form two adjacent sides of a triangle.

10. (original) The apparatus of claim 1 further including mounting screws for attaching said apparatus to an arbor press.

11. (withdrawn) A self-contained cassette module cutter for cutting elongated strips of material in a press to form predetermined shapes comprising:

an upper cutting portion including:

an adapter pressure plate;

at least one cutting blade;

a blade retainer plate comprising:

a plurality of slots for holding said at least one cutting blade, said plurality of slots geometrically positioned such that said at least one cutting blade forms an L-shape for end cutting or a plurality of triangular shapes for corner cutting;

screw holes positioned for setscrews to press and secure said at least one cutting blade against said blade retainer plate;

mounting screws securing said adapter pressure plate to said blade retainer plate; and

a top front and top rear safety shield;

a lower cutting portion including:

a base plate/material cradle;

a stripper plate; and

a bottom front and bottom rear safety shield;

guide pins passing through said blade retainer plate, return springs, return spring seats,

and threaded into said base plate/material cradle;

apertures at each end of the longitudinal axis of said cassette module for inserting and exiting said elongated strips of material; and
cassette base mounting screws securing said lower cutter portion to a press.

12. (withdrawn) The self-contained cassette module cutter of claim 11 further comprising a short blade and a long blade for said end cutting.

13. (withdrawn) The self-contained cassette module cutter of claim 12 further comprising flat tipped screws accessible from a first side of said cassette module and positioned by a portion of said plurality of slots for pressing said long blade against said blade retainer plate.

14. (withdrawn) The self-contained cassette module cutter of claim 12 further comprising a screw hole having a tapered end for a tapered tipped setscrew to press fit said short blade against said blade retainer plate, said tapered tipped setscrew accessible from a first side of said cassette module.

15. (withdrawn) The self-contained cassette module cutter of claim 14 wherein said tapered tipped setscrew presses against a wedge in contact with said short blade.

16. (withdrawn) The self-contained cassette module cutter of claim 15 wherein said tapered tipped setscrew is aligned approximately parallel to said short blade direction.

17. (withdrawn) The self-contained cassette module cutter of claim 11 further comprising a plurality of straight blades arranged in a saw-tooth fashion to cut a plurality of triangular slots in said elongated strips of material for corner cutting.

18. (withdrawn) The self-contained cassette module cutter of claim 17 further comprising a triangular shaped flexing wedge for pressing two of said straight blades against said blade retainer plate, such that said straight blades form two adjacent sides of a triangle.

19. (withdrawn) A method of cutting elongated strip material comprising:

marking said elongated strip material with linear measurements of locations for corner cuts and end cuts;

attaching at least one end cut cassette module in a press, said at least one end cut cassette module including a plurality of slots for holding at least one cutting blade, said plurality of slots geometrically positioned such that said at least one cutting blade forms an L-shape for end cutting;

operating said press with said at least one end cut cassette module secured therein to perform end cuts at said linear measurements marked for end cuts on said elongated strip; and

moving said elongated strip to additional linear measurements for end cuts and operating said press with said cassette module to perform additional end cuts.

20. (withdrawn) The method of cutting of claim 19 further comprising:

attaching a corner cut cassette module in said press, said corner cut cassette module including a plurality of blades forming a triangular shape for corner cutting; and

moving said elongated strip to linear measurements for corner cuts and operating said press with said corner cut cassette module to perform corner cuts.